



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20463

May 24, 2011

Scott E. Thomas, Esq.
Dickstein Shapiro LLP
1825 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20006-5403

Re: ADR 572 (P-MUR 518)
Lisa Maria Falcone

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The Federal Election Commission (FEC or Commission) referred a compliance issue to the FEC's Alternative Dispute Resolution Office (ADR Office) for processing. The referral by the Office of General Counsel was based on a *sua sponte* submission filed by you on behalf of Lisa Maria Falcone which asserts a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended.

The FEC established the ADR Program to provide an informal means for resolving matters that come before the Commission and to facilitate negotiations directly with counsel on behalf of Lisa Maria Falcone (Respondent). The ADR Program provides Respondent with an opportunity to negotiate settlement of a matter that is mutually agreeable. The negotiations occur prior to any Commission consideration of whether there is reason to believe a violation has occurred. If negotiations are successful, the resulting settlement would conclude the matter.

The Commission, in referring the matter to the ADR Office, determined that the case is eligible for processing in the ADR program. If Respondents decide to participate in the ADR Program, you must: 1) indicate in writing a willingness to have your case submitted for ADR processing; 2) agree to participate in the bilateral interest based negotiations; and 3) waive the statute of limitations while the matter is being processed under the FEC's ADR program.

The issues referred to the ADRO, and the focus of our subsequent negotiations, are summarized as follows:

Summary of Case: In this *sua sponte* submission, counsel asserts that during the 2007-2008 election cycle Lisa Marie Falcone (Respondent) inadvertently exceeded the biennial aggregate contribution limit on giving to political action committees (PACs) and party committees by \$30,400. In addition and as a direct result, Respondent exceeded the overall biennial limit by \$15,300.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICE
999 E STREET N.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20463
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Counsel states that Respondent was new to the political contribution environment and not aware of aggregate contribution limits under the FECA. In addition, counsel states that refunds have been requested of the relevant committees.

If after reviewing this letter and the enclosed ADR Frequently Asked Questions, which describe the ADR program, Respondent would like to participate in ADR processing, you need to affirmatively indicate that on the enclosed Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR form. **Failure to respond affirmatively within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this letter will be taken as a notice of disinterest in the program and your case will be dropped from further consideration for ADR.** In that event, your case will be sent to the FEC's Office of General Counsel for further processing, and the likelihood that the Committee will be audited during the next election cycle will increase.

This matter has been designated as **ADR 572**. Please refer to this number in future correspondence with the FEC. If you have questions about the ADR Program, please contact the ADRO at my direct dial as indicated below

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Fraser, Director
Alternative Dispute Resolution Office
202-694-1665

Enclosures: ADR Frequently Asked Questions
Commitment to Submit Matter to ADR/Designation of Representative/Counsel